



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

January 6, 2005

RE: UNITED STATES v. ISAAC HIGHTOWER

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today the sentencing of Isaac Hightower, age 44, of Reed Street, Buffalo, New York, who pled guilty, before the Honorable Richard J. Arcara, Chief United States District Judge, to count one of a federal Indictment, charging him with conspiracy to distribute cocaine base or "crack cocaine" in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846. The defendant was sentenced to 130 months imprisonment, 5 years supervised release and \$100.00 Special Assessment.

Assistant United States Attorney Mary Clare Kane, who handled the case, stated that the defendant sold crack cocaine on two occasions to an undercover agent for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in September 2002. The defendant sold a total of 83 grams of crack cocaine - approximately four (4) ounces. The defendant was formally charged in March of 2003. Under the Federal

Sentencing Guidelines, Hightower received a more severe jail sentence because of his prior criminal record.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Mark Peterson, Resident Agent in Charge.